

MARVEL

#3

CULLEN BUNN
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VENOMIZED



VENOMIZED

THE POISONS--A MULTIVERSAL SPECIES THAT HARVESTS SYMBIOTES AND CONSUMES THEIR SUPERHUMAN HOSTS--HAVE SET THEIR SIGHTS ON PRIME EARTH.

THE POISON INCURSION BEGAN AT THE EDGE OF THE GALAXY, WHERE THEY CLASHED WITH VENOM AND THE X-MEN, POISONING JEAN GREY AND MAKING HER LOYAL TO THE HIVE. FEARING A FULL-SCALE INVASION, THE HEROES RACED BACK TO EARTH.

BUT IT WAS TOO LATE--THE POISONS HAD ALREADY ATTACKED. ALTHOUGH CAPTAIN AMERICA LED A COUNTEROFFENSIVE, DOZENS OF HEROES HAVE BEEN FORCIBLY BONDED WITH SYMBIOTES AND MANY MORE STILL LOST TO THE POISONS...INCLUDING THE MIGHTY THOR.

NOW, THE POISONS ARE AFTER KID KAIJU, WHOSE UNIQUE ABILITIES COULD GIVE THE HIVE THE POWER IT NEEDS TO UTTERLY CONSUME EARTH AND HER HEROES ONCE AND FOR ALL...

NOTE: THE EVENTS OF VENOMIZED TAKE PLACE BEFORE THE MIGHTY THOR #700.

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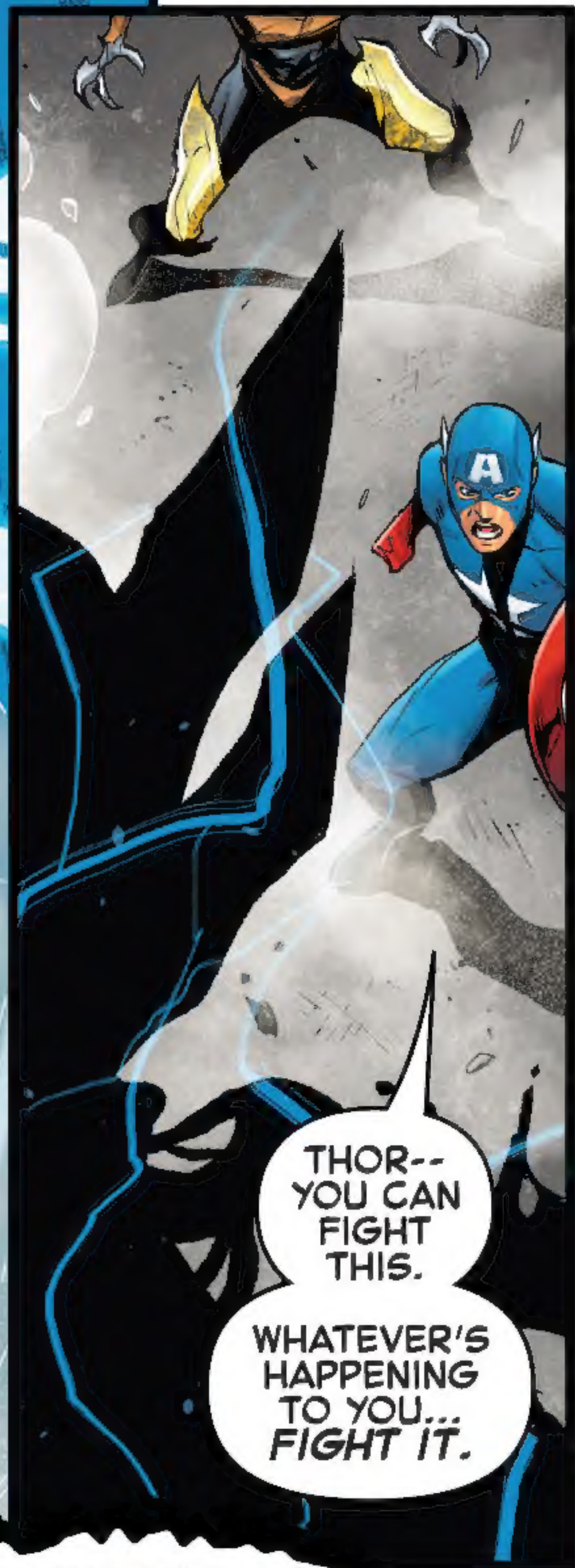
DAN BUCKLEY
PRESIDENT

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EXECUTIVE PRODUCER



And now...

...my PEOPLE HAVE A GOD TO CALL THEIR OWN!



THOR-- YOU CAN FIGHT THIS.

WHATEVER'S HAPPENING TO YOU... FIGHT IT.



SHE WAS SICK, THIS THOR. SICK AND WEAK AND FRIGHTENED.

BUT THAT'S GONE NOW.

IF SHE COULDN'T SHRUG OFF HER ILLNESS... WHAT MAKES YOU THINK SHE CAN CAST ME ASIDE?

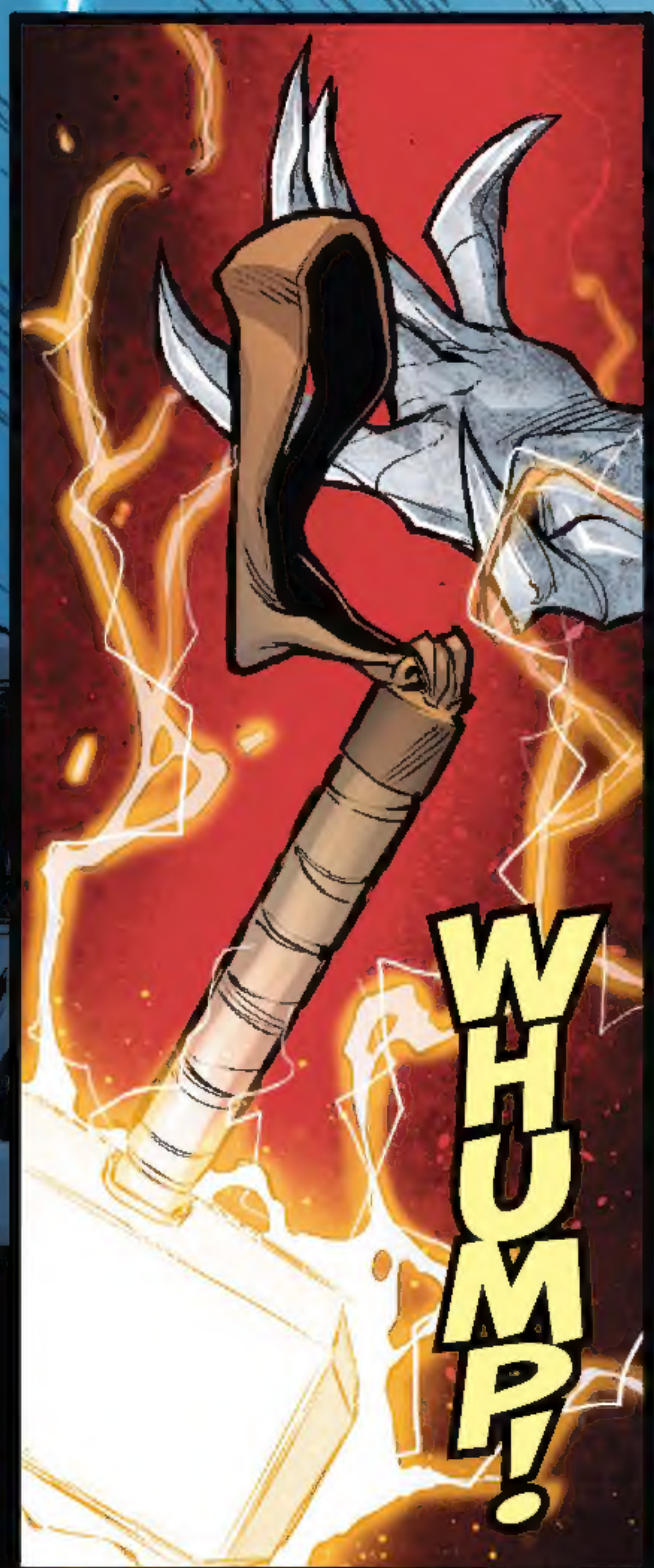


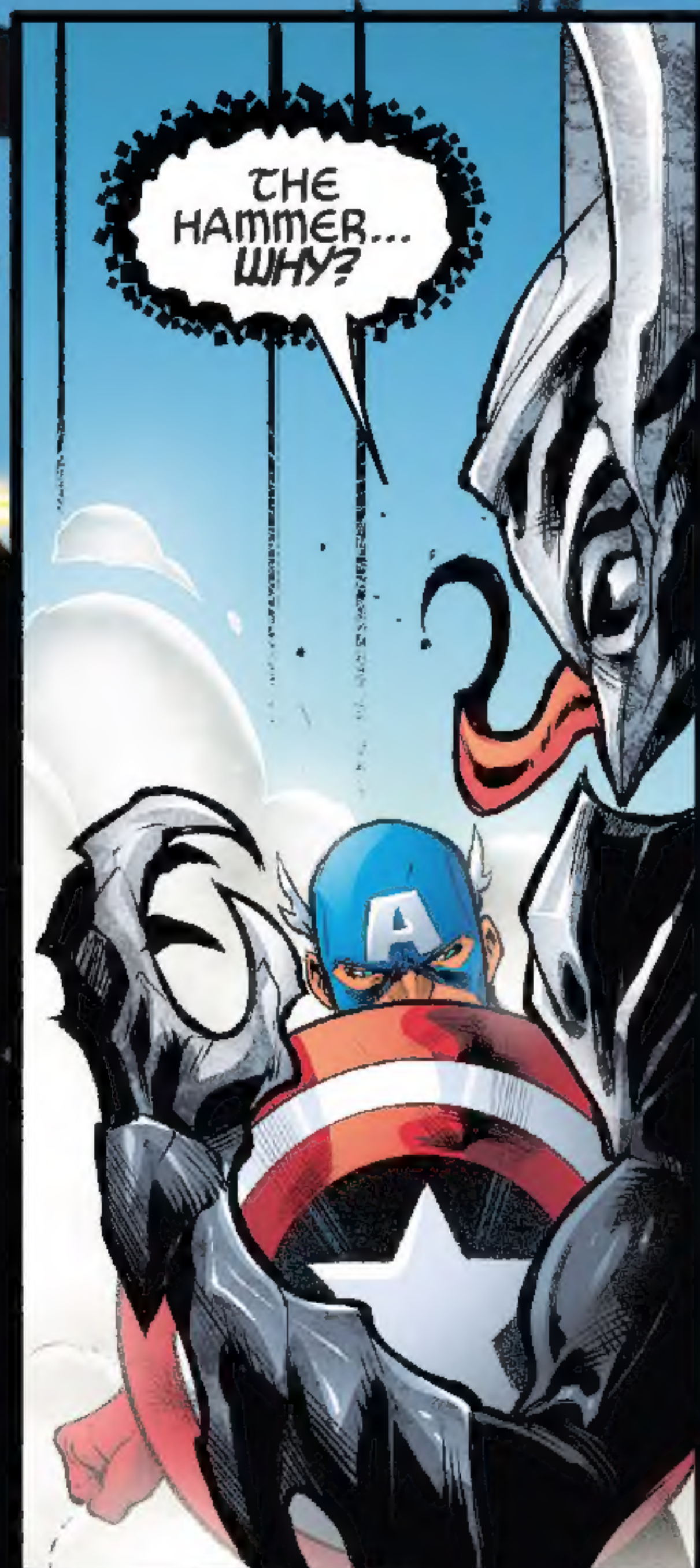
FALL TO YOUR KNEES, MORTAL.

I'LL TEACH YOU OF PAIN. OF WEAKNESS.

I'LL CRUSH YOUR BONES SO THAT WE MAY EMBRACE YOU AND HEAL YOU.

AND YOU WILL THANK THE HIVE--





THE HAMMER... WHY?



UNWORTHY.



HIT THEM!
PUSH THEM BACK!

I WANT THESE THINGS OFF MY BRIDGE!

YOU GONNA TRY TO TALK SOME "SENSE" INTO ME, CAP?

NO?

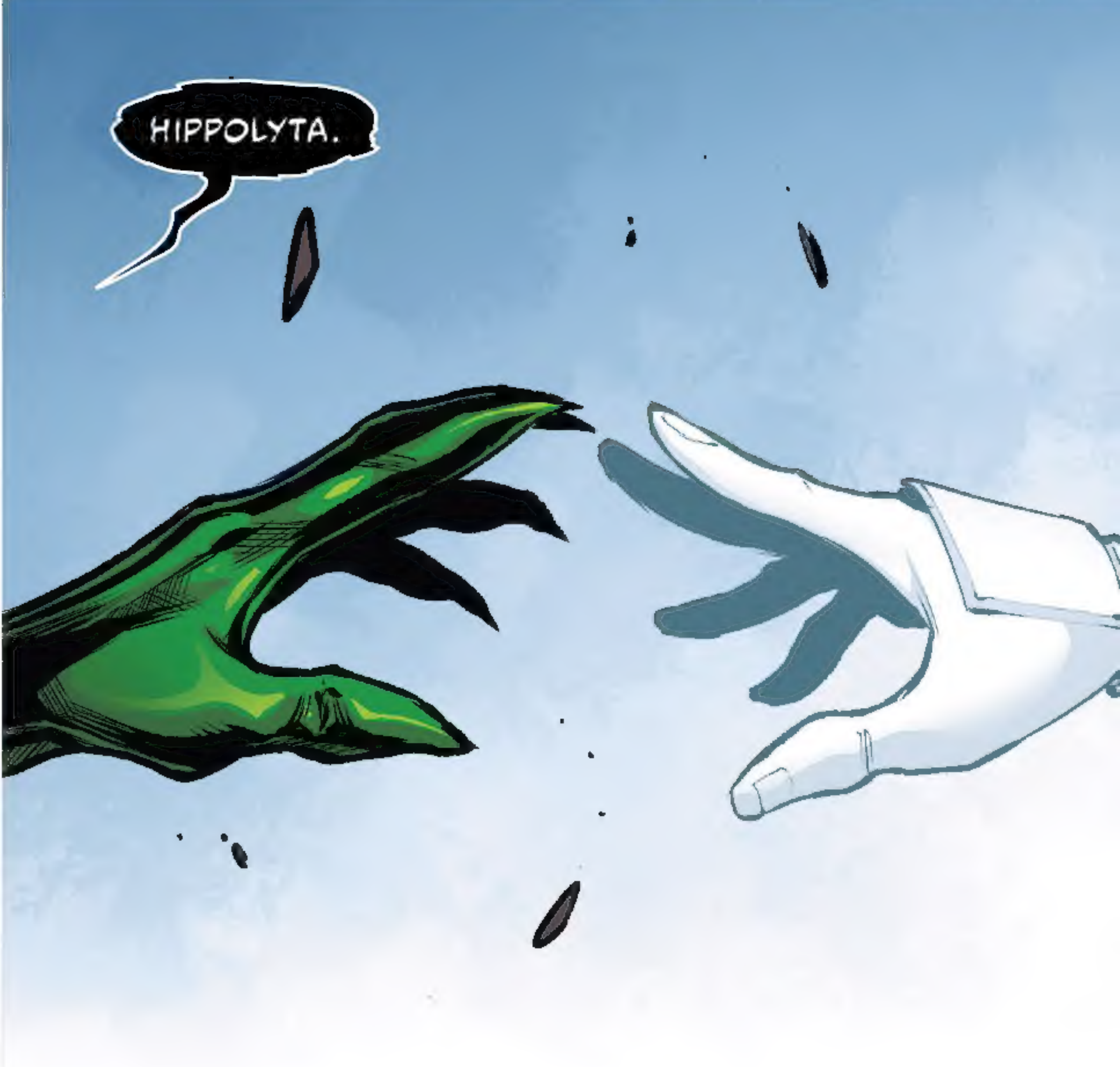
WHY NOT? AM I NOT AS IMPORTANT AS GOLDILOCKS?

D-MAN WAS NEVER PART OF YOUR LITTLE GANG...BUT NOW--HE BELONGS.



THE CIVILIANS-- WE NEED TO GET THEM CLEAR!

OTHERWISE, WE CAN'T CUT LOOSE AND FINISH THESE GUYS!





TH-THOR--

SHE HAS
BROKEN FREE OF
HER ARMORED
SHELL!

WHEN SHE
LOST CONTACT
WITH THE HAMMER,
SHE CHANGED BACK
TO HER MORTAL
FORM!

THE MAGIC
THAT SURROUNDS
HER...IT MUST HAVE
PROTECTED HER
SOMEHOW.

AND
HIPPOLYTA?
WAS SHE JUST
AN ILLUSION?
SOME KIND OF
TRICK?



YEEEEAAARRGH!



I
FOUND YOU,
SCOTT.

CYCLOPS,
YOU ALL
RIGHT?

IT'S...
JEAN!

SHE'S
HERE ON
EARTH!



"...SHE'S
COME
BACK!"

ZEUS
PROTECT
US!

I FOUND
YOU ALL.

ATTACKING
MY ALLIES!

PLAYING
TRICKS WITH
MY MIND!

YOU HAVE
ROUSED THE
ANGER OF THE
LION OF
OLYMPUS!

AND FOR
THAT YOU
MUST FALL!



NOVA? HAVE YOU GONE MAD?

HERCULES-- THOSE ARE OUR FRIENDS. AT LEAST...SOME OF THEM ARE!

WE CAN'T JUST CRUSH THEM WITH CARS!

WE CAN'T WIN THIS FIGHT!

WE'RE HOPELESSLY OUTNUMBERED AND OUTMATCHED!

I'LL--DROP AS MANY OF THEM AS I CAN WHILE YOU RETREAT AND REGROUP!

ABSOLUTELY NOT!



"THERE ARE TOO MANY INNOCENT BYSTANDERS!"

"WE'RE NOT GOING TO ABANDON THEM-- OR YOU!"



WE'RE ALL STAYING.

WE HAVE TO GIVE THE CIVILIANS TIME TO GET CLEAR, AND YOU CAN'T DO THAT ALONE.

IF THAT MEANS WE DIE TRYING, THEN THAT'S WHAT WE'RE GOING TO DO.





THIS
AIN'T ME!

THIS
AIN'T WHO
I AM!

THIS
AIN'T MY
OTHER!

STAND
BETWEEN ME
AND MY REAL SELF,
I'LL SLAUGHTER
EVERY DAMN
ONE OF YOU!

AS IN THE
OTHER UNIVERSE,
THE ANOMALY KNOWN
AS CARNAGE IS
DANGEROUS.

IT IS NOT
HIS SYMBIOTE,
BUT HIS
INSTABILITY.

HIS
TOUCH IS AS...
POISON.

IS THAT
SOME SORT
OF JOKE?

WHAT OF THE
MODIFICATIONS THAT
HAVE BEEN MADE TO
THE SYMBIOTE?

"IF OUR WORK
HAS PROVEN
SUCCESSFUL....

YOU
HEAR ME,
BABY?

"WE CAN CLAIM
HIM DESPITE
HIS INSANITY."

I'M
COMIN' FOR
YA!



"IT'S SETTLED, THEN."

THE SYMBIOTES ARE TOO DANGEROUS.

IF THERE WAS ANOTHER WAY...MAYBE...BUT IT'S EITHER *US* OR *THEM*.



ARE YOU KIDDING ME WITH THIS?

THE KLYNTAR ARE PRISONERS! THE POISONS ARE USING THEM!

YOU KILL THEM, IT'S NO DIFFERENT THAN KILLING INNOCENT CIVILIANS!

EVERY TIME ONE OF THESE THINGS SHOWS UP, IT BRINGS TROUBLE WITH IT!

DON'T START PREACHING ABOUT HOW HARMLESS THEY ARE--BECAUSE I HAVEN'T SEEN THAT!

GENTLEMEN, IF I MAY.

AT THIS POINT, WE'RE NOT SURE WHERE WE SHOULD COMBAT THIS--PARDON MY PHRASING--CONTAMINATION.

WE MUST CONSIDER THE SYMBIOTES AS A POSSIBILITY.

BUT THE POISONS THEMSELVES COULD OFFER ANOTHER SOLUTION.

IF WE DESTROY THEM...

...AND DESTROY THEM AT THE SOURCE...

...THIS PROBLEM GOES AWAY.

LIKE THE MARTIANS IN THAT OLD MOVIE.

THEY GOT SICK.

AND-- LET ME GUESS--YOU'RE THINKING MY ANTI-SYMBIOTE PROPERTIES MIGHT HELP YOU IN THAT REGARD.

YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT WAR OF THE WORLDS.



WE DON'T
KNOW WHERE
THIS "SOURCE"
IS.

AND--EVEN
IF WE DID--
WE'RE GONNA LOSE
PEOPLE IN THE
PROCESS.

IT'S
A SUICIDE
MISSION.

I'M ALL
FOR A GOOD
HAIL MARY PLAY,
BUT WHAT WE
NEED IS A
PLAN.

THESE
ALIENS...THE
POISONS...ARE
HITTING US WHERE
IT HURTS THE MOST,
WHERE THEY CAN
DRAW HEROES
OUT OF HIDING.

AND WHEN
THEY HIT US,
THEY BRING
SYMBIOTES
WITH THEM.



I'M BETTING
THEY'RE STATIONED
SOMEWHERE CLOSE...
AND THEY'VE GOT A
WHOLE CACHE OF
SYMBIOTES READY
TO BE USED AS
WEAPONS.

WE FIND
THE CACHE,
WE CAN EITHER
DESTROY--OR
RESCUE--THE
SYMBIOTES.

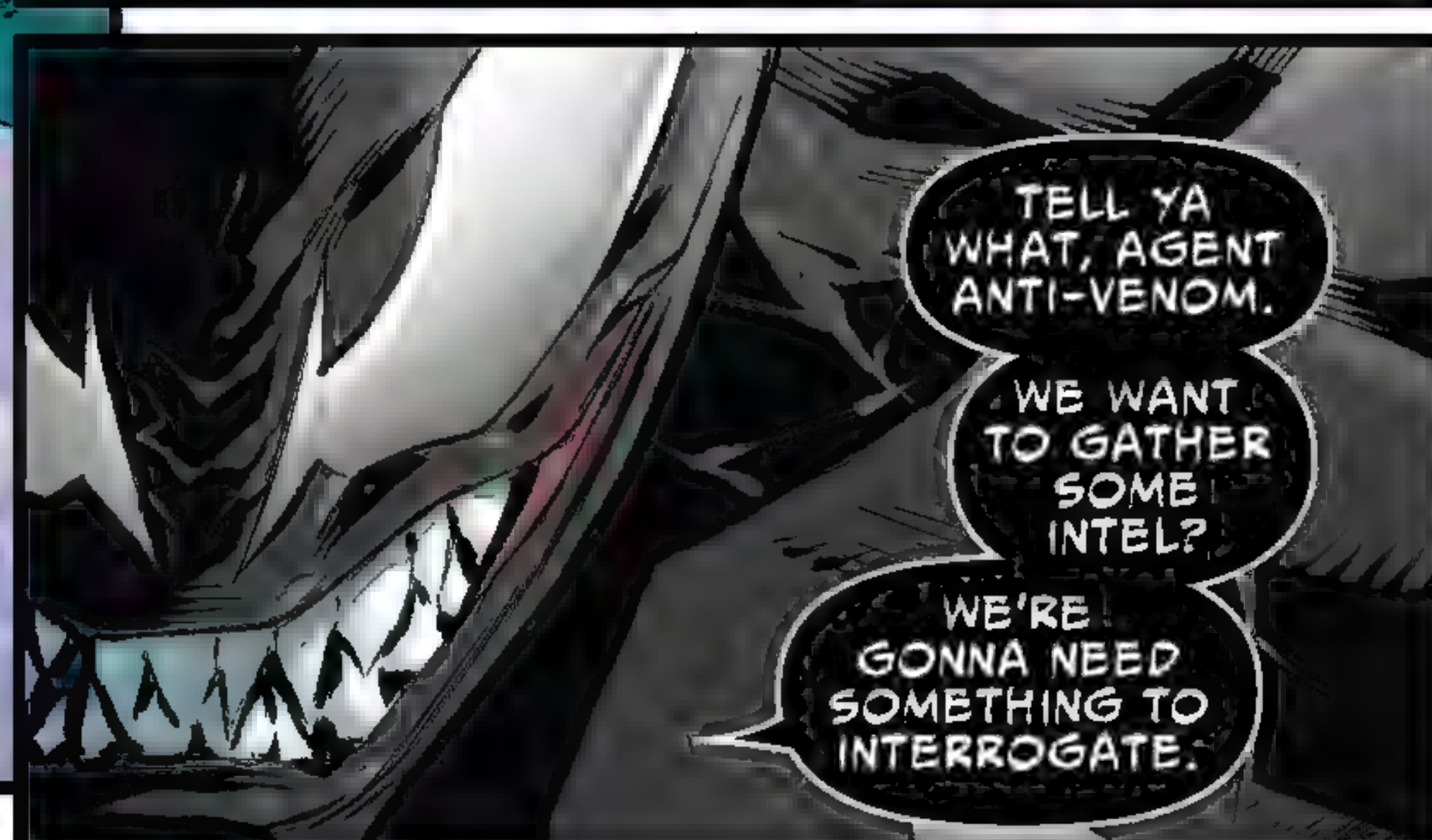
EITHER
WAY, THAT'LL
PUT THE HURT
BACK ON THE
POISONS.



AW,
NO.



LUNELLA.



TELL YA
WHAT, AGENT
ANTI-VENOM.

WE WANT
TO GATHER
SOME
INTEL?

WE'RE
GONNA NEED
SOMETHING TO
INTERROGATE.



THE AWFUL
SCRAGG DEMANDS
THAT YOU LIVE
LONG AND HAPPY
LIVES!

EAT YOUR
VEGETABLES!

CALL YOUR
MOTHERS!

IT LOOKED
LIKE YOU GUYS
COULD USE A
HAND!

NOW SEEMS
LIKE A GOOD
TIME TO GET THE
HECK OUT OF
HERE!

LET ME
AND MY
MONSTERS
HANDLE THESE
GUYS!

AND DON'T
WORRY!

SCRAGG'S...
UH...MINI-
SCRAGGS WILL
GET ALL THE
PEOPLE TO
SAFETY!

THAT ONE.
THAT'S KID
KAIJU.

I WANT
HIM.

HYPERION--
FETCH.



THEY'RE
GOING AFTER
THAT MONSTER-
MAKIN'
KID!

IF THEY
TAKE HIM, THEY
CAN CREATE A WHOLE
ARMY OF BIG
NASTIES!

MAYBE WE CAN
CATCH HYPERION--
BUT WHAT ARE WE
GONNA DO WITH
HIM ONCE WE
GET HIM?



DON'T
WORRY ABOUT
IT, LITTLE
DUDE.

KRRRNCH!



YOUR
BOY AEGIS
HAS TOTALLY
GOT THIS.



KID KAIJU!
YOU CAN'T
STAY HERE!

YOU
CAN'T FIGHT
THEM ON YOUR
OWN!

IF ANY OF US
ARE LEAVING--
ALL OF US ARE
LEAVING!

WELL, MY
DAD ALWAYS
SAID...

...WHEN
CAPTAIN AMERICA
TELLS YOU TO
JUMP...YOU ASK HIM
"HOW FAR YOU WANT
YOUR TELEPORTATION
AMULET TO
JUMP?"



ROODA
AA
AR!

YOU
TELL 'EM,
DEVIL!

ARE YOU...
ME?

WE
HAVE TAKEN
SEVERAL IRON
FISTS.

BUT
ANOTHER
IS ALWAYS
WELCOME.

THEY'RE
TALKING ABOUT
ALTERNATE
REALITIES!

THESE GUYS
ARE LIKE...
MONSTER VERSIONS
OF PEOPLE FROM
THIS WORLD!

SHA-
SMACK!

ONE SIDE,
PERP.

I'VE
GOT MY EYE
ON A BIGGER
PRIZE.

WATCH
OUT!



CHOOM!

GROWL!

DEVIL?
ARE YOU STILL IN THERE?
ARE YOU STILL WITH US?

WHAT JUST HAPPENED?
DID THEY JUST GIVE A DINOSAUR A VENOM SYMBIOTE?
DOES THAT MAKE HIM A GOOD GUY OR A BAD GUY?

NO-- THIS IS JUST THE FIRST STAGE.
ALL THE LITTLE ONES...THEY'RE CONVERGING ON DEVIL.
LIKE KIDS RUNNING FOR CANDY SPILLING OUT OF A PIÑATA.



BRAKKA-BRAKKA-BRAKKA!

PLEASE
STEP AWAY
FROM THE
T. REX.

WHY DO
I GET THE
FEELING THIS IS
LESS OF A CAPTURE-
AND-INTERROGATE
MISSION...AND
MORE OF A
RESCUE?

THIS IS BAD...
DANGEROUS.

THEY GET
TO ANYONE IN
A SYMBIOTE AND
THEY'LL TAKE
THEM.

UH...YOU
AND I ARE IN
SYMBIOTES.

I WAS
TALKING ABOUT
THE DINOSAUR
AND MYSELF.

YOU I
DON'T CARE
SO MUCH
ABOUT.

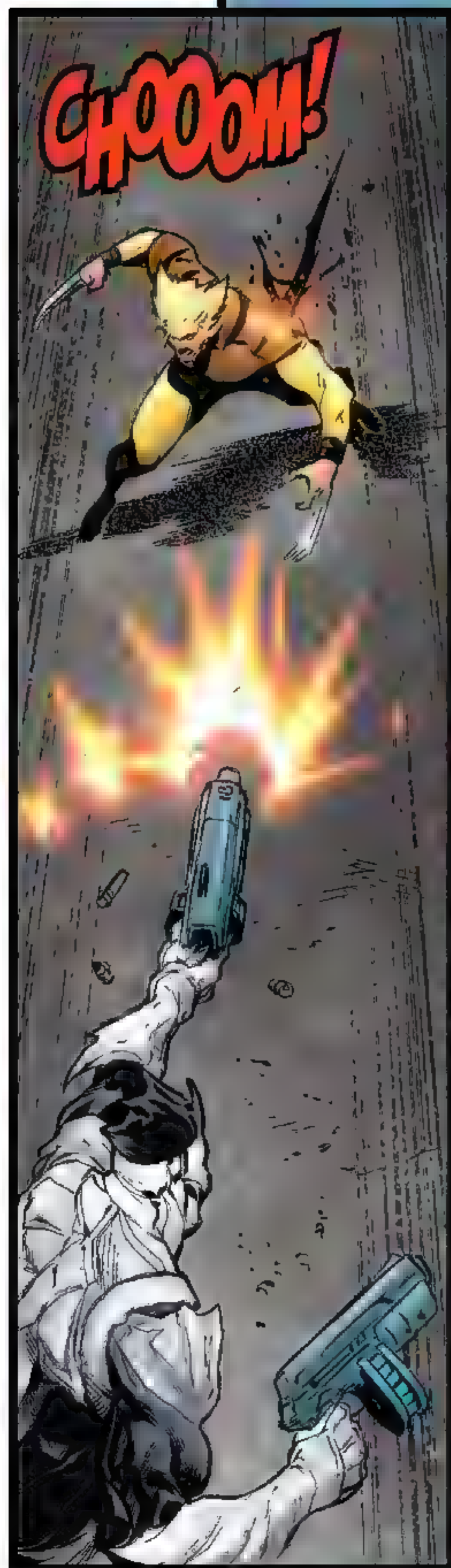
TRYING
TO AIR DROP
A WOLVERINE
ON ME?

YOU PICKED
THE WRONG
TARGET!

ACTUALLY,
BLOB--

--I'M NOT
WORRIED
ABOUT
YOU.

**STILTZ-
KOW!**



BLOODSTORM!
LOOK AT ME...
...LOOK
AT WHAT THEY
DID...

SOMEBODY--
CAPTURE ONE OF
THESE THINGS
ALIVE!

LET'S SEE
IF WE CAN GET
THIS THING OFF
PUNISHER
HERE!

SORRY,
BUDDY! THIS
MAY STING!

YOU'RE
ALL RIGHT,
JIMMY!


JUST STAY
AWAY FROM
THOSE SMALL
CREATURES!

SKKREEE HAAAAAANK!

THERE'S...
NOTHING
INSIDE.

WHAT
THE HELL
DID I JUST
DO?

"AS WE PREDICTED,
WE HAVE RUN INTO A
FEW COMPLICATIONS."



THE SECOND ANOMALY--THE ONE CALLED KID KAIJU--HAS SURFACED.

HIS CREATIONS ALLOWED MOST OF THE HEROES TO ESCAPE.

BUT, IN HELPING THE OTHERS, HE HAS REVEALED HIMSELF.

MORE TROUBLING IS A THIRD ANOMALY, ONE WE HAVE NOT ENCOUNTERED IN ANY OTHER REALITY--CALLED ANTI-VENOM.

HIS TOUCH IS CAUSTIC TO OUR KIND.

AND SO HE MUST BE DESTROYED.

WE HAVE DISCOVERED WHERE THEY ARE HIDING, YES?

THE TRACKERS WE PLANTED ON THE SYMBIOTES SHOULD LEAD US RIGHT TO THEIR HIDING PLACE.

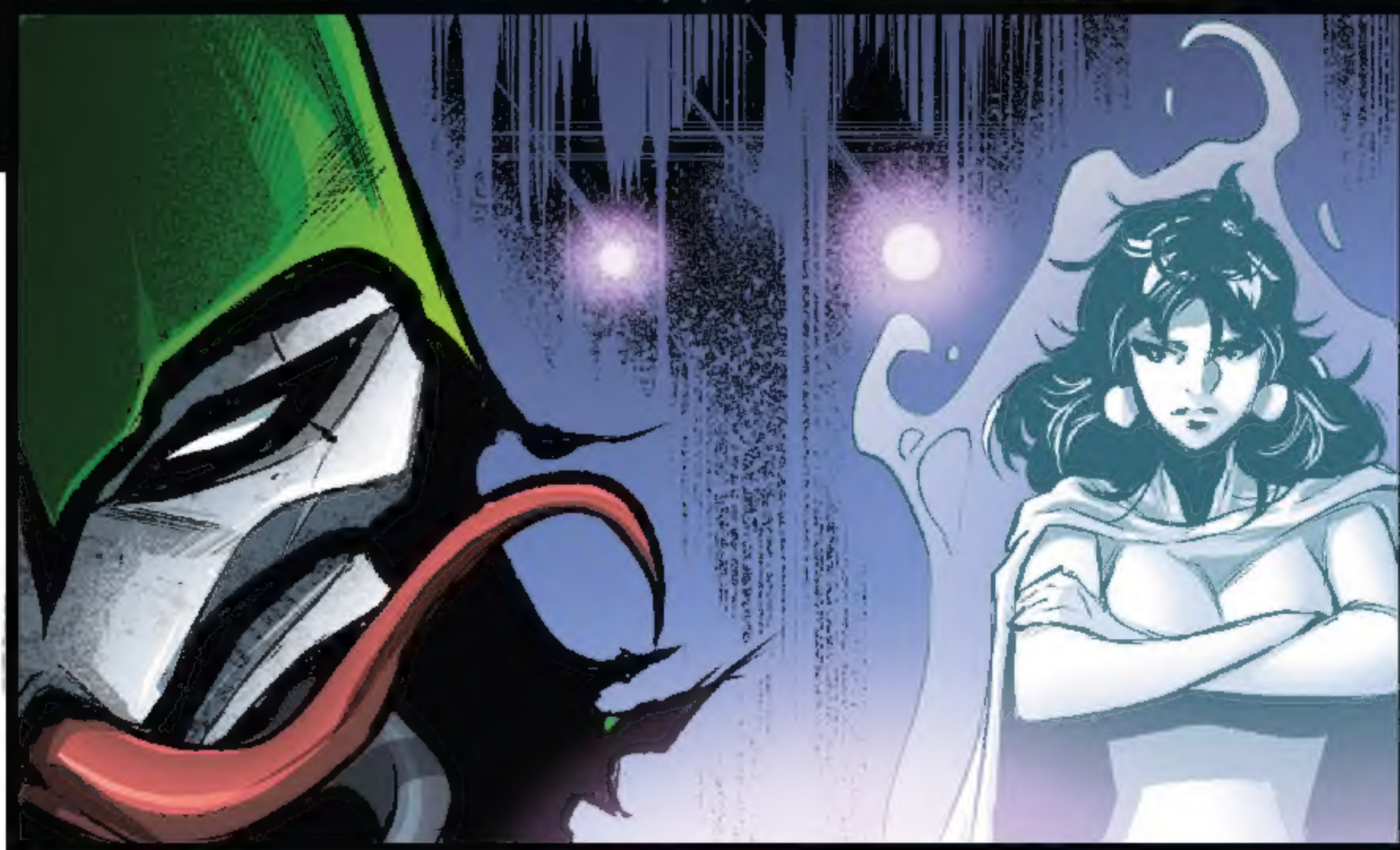
AND WHEN WE DIG THEM OUT--



--JUST LET
OL' CLETUS
CARVE THEM UP
REAL NICE.

LEAVE 'EM
BLEEDIN' AND
SQUEALIN'.

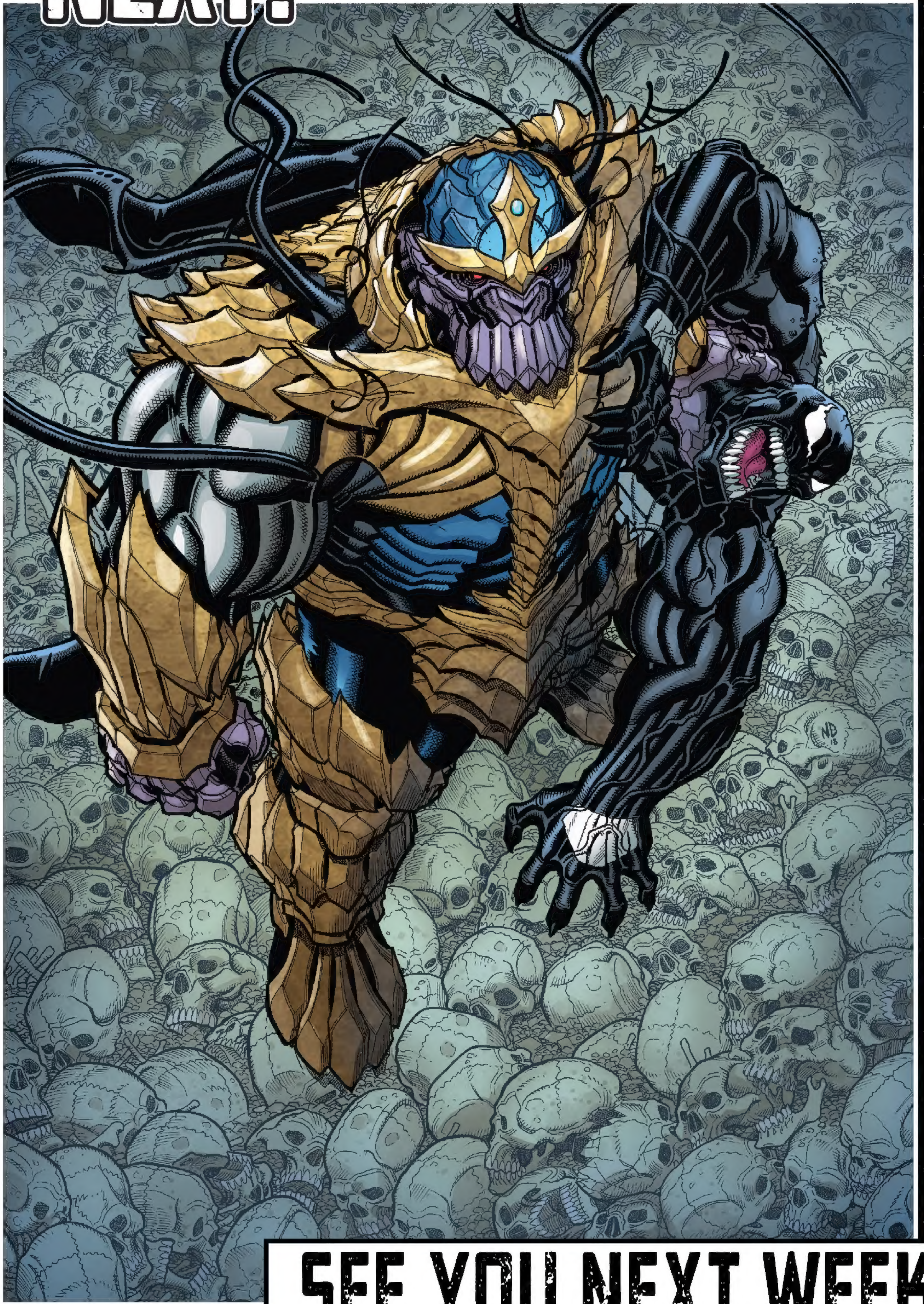
RIPE
FOR THE
PICKIN'.



LET'S DO
THIS.

TO BE CONTINUED IN
VENOMIZED #4!

NEXT:



SEE YOU NEXT WEEK!

THE "VENOMIZED" SAGA CONTINUES WITH *VENOMIZED #4*, ON SALE 4/25. DON'T MISS IT, TRUE BELIEVERS!
IN THE MEANTIME, SEND YOUR NOTES TO SPIDEYOFFICE@MARVEL.COM AND LET US KNOW HOW WE'RE
DOING! MARK THEM "OKAY TO PRINT."

SEE YOU IN ONE WEEK, TRUE BELIEVERS!

--TOM

